4th March 1927]

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I should like to have notice of the question."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Will he be kind enough to ask the Collector to report on this matter ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" That is one of the points on which his report will contain information."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know if the Government have settled a scheme of famine relief works for the whole of famine-affected areas in the Presidency and will they be pleased to place it on the table of the House. Instead of referring the labourers to the railway companies or to get the help of local boards, has the Government themselves settled any scheme to be undertaken by them directly and may I know further whether the hon. Member will be pleased to lay it on the table ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" There is for every district a list or programme of works to be adopted in the event of famine works being started."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Has it not yet been settled ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" In every district there is a programme of works maintained even in normal seasons to be put through in the event of famine relief being started."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" It is not a question of programme of work. May I know what specifically, out of those programmes of work has been taken up ? If the hon. Member will be kind enough to get that information from the districts and publish it, I feel that the members of this House would be in a better position to tell the sufferers where they can find employment."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not follow the hon. Member. In answer to a previous question it was made quite clear that the Government have not opened relief works."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I was asking a question with reference to the answer the hon. the Revenue Member gave to the Member for Kistna. I really wanted to know whether out of the programme of work for every district any definite work has been taken in hand in any district and if so whether the hon. Member was prepared to get reports of such definite works taken up for this year and publish them for the information of the House ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" As I have said already the Government have not opened any relief work. When the time comes they will do so."

Free grazing of cattle in forest reserves of famine-stricken districts.

*225 *Q.*—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any representation from famine-stricken districts to throw open certain forest reserves for grazing cattle free during this period of distress ; and

(*b*) whether Government have passed any and what orders thereon ?

A.—No representations have been received by Government to throw open forest reserves for grazing cattle free. The attention of the hon. Member is however drawn to sections 182, 183 and 184 of the Madras Famine Code which permit Collectors of districts to allow free grazing of cattle in open areas and close reserves. The attention of the Collectors of those districts where the season has been bad has been drawn to these provisions.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" Sir, the last sentence in the answer to this question runs thus : 'The attention of the Collectors of those districts where the season has been bad has been drawn to these provisions.' May I know how far they have utilized the provisions of sections 182, 183 and 184 in my own district of Guntur ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I have to ask for notice with regard to Guntur. I have information with regard to Kurnool and Cuddapah."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I know how they were utilized ? Were any reserves thrown open for grazing ? ".

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Free grazing was permitted in Cuddapah, etc., and in Ongole one of the concessions granted was concession rates on railways for the transport of fodder."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" The hon. Member spoke of throwing open reserves for grazing. Is it a matter in which the Collectors move of their own accord or should they wait until they get mahazars or things of that sort ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" They move of their own accord."

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—" May I know whether free grazing is permitted in Bellary ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I must ask for notice."

Public Service

Restrictive orders regarding qualifications for public service.

* 226 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state, with reference to G.O. No. 965, Public, dated 16th November 1926—

(*a*) whether there was any general demand from heads of departments for the issue of restrictive orders contained in the Government Order referred to above ;

(*b*) if so, whether the hon. Member will place the correspondence on the table ;

(*c*) if not, whether the hon. Member will state what led to the issue of the said Government Order ;

(*d*) whether the Government have received complaints that the said Government Order will tend to shut out from public service communities that are backward in education such as Muslims and depressed classes ;